State	Total no. of projects
Jharkhand	9
Karnataka	19
Kerala	13
Madhya Pradesh	10
Maharastra	18
Orissa	20
Punjab	6
Rajasthan	14
Tamil Nadu	20
Uttar Pradesh	41
Uttranchal	3
West Bengal	26

Projects falling in more than one State has been shown in all States through which the projects pass.

Pending projects

529. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a huge backlog of unfinished gauge conversion and newline projects which require 15 years and 38 years to complete going by the present rate of funding;

(b) whether the total estimated cost of these pending projects has risen to more than Rs. 55,000 crores whereas the outlay for these projects for 2005-06 is a mere Rs. 1342 crores; and

(c) whether after obtaining 'out-of-turn' approval from Parliament during 2000 to 2005, Railways did not take up 50 out of 67 road over/under bridges projects till March, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The throwforward of ongoing new line and gauge conversion projects as on 1.4.2006 is about Rs. 40,000 crores. During 2005-06, an outlay

of about Rs. 3,200 crores was provided for these two Planheads as per Revised Budget Estimates.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is fact that work on many of the Road Over/Under bridges (ROB/RUB) sanctioned on 'out-of-turn' basis could not be taken up immediately due to following reasons:

(i) General Arrangement Drawing not finalized by State Govt, in time*.

(ii) Details Cost Estimates of approaches not made available in time by State Govt.

(iii) State Government delayed in allocating funds for sanctioned ROB work.

(iv) Delay by State Govt, in acquisition of land required for approaches.

(v) Few of the roads were classified as National Highway (NH) hence the ROBs falling thereon have to be referred to Ministry of Road Transport and Highways/National Highway Authority of India.

Development of stations of international standard

†530. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to seek the services of designers to make major railway stations in the country of international standard including the metro cities;

(b) if so, the stations proposed to be made of international standard;

(c) the facilities which would be provided to the passengers on these stations; and

(d) by when all the major stations would be converted into model stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) To begin with Railways have planned to develop New Delhi, Howrah (Kolkata), Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Mumbai) and Chennai Central Railway Station (Chennai) into world class stations.

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†Originai notice of Question was received in Hindi.